

## ABSTRACT

**VIDEO SIGNAL ENCODING AND BUFFER MANAGEMENT**

5           A method of, and apparatus for, encoding and multiplexing a digital  
video picture are provided using intra-coded fields only at a relatively high bit-  
rate, with each picture being encoded as a sequence of slices from the video  
image field. The encoding suitably complies with MPEG or similar  
requirements, and the intra-coding is further constrained so that the maximum  
10   number of bits for each slice in the picture is limited, and the delivery schedule  
of the bits to a decoder is more tightly constrained than is implied by the  
MPEG decoding models. In this way it is possible to build a high quality, low  
cost MPEG (or similar) encoder and decoder for video communications over  
digital interconnection standards such as IEEE 1394.

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(Figure 6)